

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5 and 9-44 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being independent and claims 12, 13 and 16-32 being withdrawn.

Independent claim 1 is amended in accordance with an Examiner Interview conducted between the above-identified Examiner and the undersigned on July 2, 2008, at which time it was agreed that the present amendment would patentably distinguish that claim over the single applied reference, Domb et al. (WO 95/03356), for reasons including the claimed linearity feature. In particular, the very first line in Applicants' Claims section (claim 1), defines the invention as being directed to "[a] linear block copolymer ... c2,-b)-c1)-a)." (Emphasis added.) In contrast, the very first line of the Domb et al. Summary section begins with "[n]on-linear multiblock copolymers are prepared," and, as if to double the emphasis, the very first line of the Domb et al. Detailed Description section begins with "[n]on-linear multiblock copolymers are prepared." Even the title of the Domb et al. reference emphasizes the focus of the invention as being directed to "...NON-LINEAR...MULTIBLOCK COPOYMERS." As for Applicants' other pending claims, they all depend from independent, amended claim 1.

Accordingly, as a consequence of the above remarks, and of the July 2nd Examiner Interview, reconsideration and withdrawal of the current rejections are respectfully submitted as being appropriate.

In view of the above, the Examiner is requested to consider the application now to be in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Applicants: GÖPFERICH, Achim et al.
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any needed fees to deposit account
50-1600.

Respectfully submitted,



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